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**Abstract**

A method for producing a fluid-pervious fabric (301) for imparting a pattern to a fibre web. The fabric comprises at least one polymer material with a softening temperature, and a fabric structure (306). The fabric (301) is heated to a temperature higher than the softening temperature, wherein a forming pressure ( $\Delta p_s$ ) is applied between a first surface (304) and a second surface (305) of the fabric. Fabric patterning members (309, 309') on the support contribute to a deformation of the fabric structure (306) in the Z-direction in deformation zones (311) in which the fluid permeability remains essentially unchanged. The fabric (301) is cooled down to a temperature lower than the softening temperature rendering the deformation permanent. Furthermore, the invention relates to a fluid-pervious fabric, e.g. a wire or a felt, and patterned fibre web, e.g. a paper web, a nonwoven web, or another fibre web.

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(Fig. 3 to be published)

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